

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-26. (CANCELLED)

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A prime-boost vaccine strategy for protecting a mammal against infection by a pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* comprising:

administering a first priming immunogenic composition to a vaccinee wherein said first priming immunogenic composition is a Bacille Calmette Guérin (BCG); and

administering a second boosting immunogenic composition, after the passage of a period of time, to said vaccinee optionally in the presence of an adjuvant, wherein said second boosting immunogenic composition comprises at least one is-a purified Mycobacteria major extracellular protein selected from the group consisting of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb) 23.5 kDa protein, Mtb 30 kDa protein, *Mycobacterium bovis* (MB) 30 kDa protein, MB 32A kDa protein, *Mycobacterium leprae* (ML) 23.5 kDa protein, ML 30 kDa protein, and ML 32A kDa protein; and

wherein a protective immune response against said pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* is produced results in said vaccinee.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 27 wherein said BCG is a recombinant BCG (rBCG) that over expresses at least one Mycobacteria major extracellular protein.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 27 wherein said Mycobacteria major extracellular protein is derived from a *Mycobacterium* pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* is selected from the group consisting of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb), *Mycobacterium bovis* (MB), and *Mycobacterium leprae* (ML).

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 27 wherein said purified Mycobacteria major extracellular protein is a purified recombinant Mycobacteria major extracellular protein.

31. (CANCELED) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 27 wherein said purified Mycobacteria major extracellular protein is selected from the group consisting of Mtb 23.5 kDa protein, Mtb 30 kDa protein, Mtb 32A kDa protein, MB 30 kDa protein, MB 32A kDa protein, ML 23.5 kDa protein, ML 30 kDa protein and ML 32A kDa protein.

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 28 wherein said rBCG over expresses at least one Mycobacteria major extracellular protein selected from the group consisting of Mtb 23.5 kDa protein, Mtb 30 kDa protein, Mtb 32A kDa protein, MB 30 kDa protein, MB 32A kDa protein, ML 23.5 kDa protein, ML 30 kDa protein and ML 32A kDa protein.

33.-40. (CANCELLED)

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 28 wherein said Mycobacteria[[I]] major extracellular protein and said purified Mycobacteria[[I]] major extracellular protein are the same protein.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A prime-boost vaccine strategy for protecting a mammal against infection by a pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* comprising:
administering a first priming immunogenic composition to a vaccinee wherein said first immunogenic priming composition is BCG; and
administering a second boosting immunogenic composition, after the passage of a period of time, to said vaccinee wherein said second boosting immunogenic composition is purified *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* 30 kDa protein; and
wherein a protective immune response against said pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* is produced results in said vaccinee.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 42 further comprising an adjuvant.

44. (New) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 42 wherein said BCG is a rBCG that over expresses at least one *Mycobacteria* major extracellular protein.

45. (NEW) The prime-boost vaccine strategy according to claim 42 wherein said pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* is selected from the group consisting of *M. tuberculosis*, *M. bovis*, and *M. leprae*.

46. (NEW) A prime-boost vaccine strategy for protecting against infection by a pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* comprising:

identifying an individual who has previously been immunized with BCG;
and

administering to said individual a boosting immunogenic composition, optionally in the presence of an adjuvant, wherein said boosting immunogenic composition comprises at least one purified *Mycobacteria* major extracellular protein selected from the group consisting of Mtb 23.5 kDa protein, Mtb 30 kDa protein, MB 30 kDa protein, MB 32A kDa protein, ML 23.5 kDa protein, ML 30 kDa protein, and ML 32A kDa protein;

wherein a protective immune response against said pathogen of the genus *Mycobacterium* is produced in said individual.